

I would like to express my concern for relaxing the part 15 regulations to accommodate power line communication (Broadband over Power Lines). I am an engineer and currently work in the wireless device area. I am also an amateur radio license holder as well as a general radio telephone license holder. In my work with 802.11a and 802.11b wireless devices, I see people everyday trying to boost the power of the device to get better range. There are many companies selling amplifiers and hi gain antennas for these systems. They seem to have no regard for the part 15 rules. I even work closely with a manufacturer of 802.11 devices that recommends these solutions to their customers. They know they can not get away with boosting the power of the device so they recommend that someone else do it so that their solution works and they can make the sale. They are working under the assumption that the FCC is way to busy to enforce the part 15 rules at an end user level. They are probably correct. I also have several local car stereo stores that are advertising extended range on car alarms. They are basically doing this by increasing the gain of the antennas on the car side transmitter. They also have no concern for the part 15 rules. I doubt they even know they exist. My concern is this, Giving a large utility company the capability to radiate more signal in the HF band will give them the ability to push even farther outside the limits. This will in all likelihood generate so much interference that it will make the HF bands useless for any other communication. There will be no way to enforce the radiation limits and the companies will not be responsive to interference problems. I have on several occasions contacted my local electric company to tell them about arcing insulators. The response I usually get is that they will change it when the insulator breaks and the power goes out. These aging insulators are already causing me grief and if they utility company cannot keep control on their existing power equipment how can we expect them to keep control of the new equipment. Retaining the current part 15 limits will at least keep them in check and hopefully allow for the continued use of HF communication.